

RICHARD ST. CLAIR

SIX SONGS

FOR SOPRANO AND PIANO

ON POEMS BY KENNETH PATCHEN

OPUS 28

1970-1971

1. Lowellville Cemetery: Twilight  
Slowly - Distant and Desolate (♩ = 69)

# Six Songs

Opus 28

Music by Richard St. Clair - 1970-1971  
Words by Kenneth Patchen - 1952 \*

Piano

Gone si-lence down low-ered sun O at this each of

ev-ery - thing here These poor knot-ted hands lost (a tempo)

Un-der the dark-ened foam of grass.

Un-der the dark-ened foam of grass.

26

Stone unto stone and flesh unto flesh

26

*crescendo*

29

Scat-tered as cold pet - als on the floor of win-ter's own walk - ing.

33

*mp*

*Ritenuato*  $\text{♩} = 92$

37 *Piu lento*  $\text{♩} = 56$  *Accel. e cresc.*  $\text{♩} = 88$  *Adagio* ( $\text{♩} = 52$ ) *dim.*

All should be dark. And dark on dark for - e - ver Now. Sun - down and

37  $\text{♩} = 56$  *Accel.*  $\text{♩} = 88$  *Adagio* ( $\text{♩} = 52$ ) *ff*

*-inuendo* *sotto primo tempo*

42

world, too. As it is for them, ly-ing here. Why is it not? Why is it not

42

2. But of Life?  
Moderately slow-very subdued ( $\text{♩} = 90$ )

3

$\text{♩} = 90$

What I want in heart - o Still-er, wid-er, near-er-

$\text{♩} = 90$   
3 *pp*  
2 *Ped. sempre*

Said the tree Is that none come touch-ing for their

Piano  
(7: tacet)

own stuff an-y part of me.  $\text{♩} = 96$  (poco mosso)  
And o-ver him a  $\text{♩} = 96$

Piano  
poco mosso  
(Ped) \*

wall of shift-ing you be-gan to build. lit-tle on lit-tle-like a wet shroud. (ritardando-----)

3  
4  
ritardando-----

Tempo I° ( $\text{♩} = 90$ )

No birds came then. And with them stars strayed. His poor bran-ches

17 Tempo I° ( $\text{♩} = 90$ )

2  
2  
4  
2  
Ped.

4

trailed white and still. He wept. His loud-est cry went

un - heard So was Cru - ci - fix - ion's tree

*pp* *molto meno forte* *(fff) pesante* *ritard.*  $\text{♩} = 56$  *piu*

*fff (pesante)* *ritard.* *8va*

### 3. Watching Neighbors' Children

Bright - Jovous ( $\text{♩} = 96$ , or  $\text{♩} = 64$ )

Lit - tle gay bon - nets!

So many Bright pretty birds dancing by this morn - ing! In your candr - stick

*marcato* *crescendo* *mf* *8va*

stock-ings, where's a braver bunch! Jenny, Ann, Kate—

*marc.*

12 Which one will in yonder meadow meet old Bloody-Beard?

*sfz f mp grazioso p deffly più p*

*marc.*

15 Ah, stain-ed be the lil-ies No eye see, or voice tell—

*8 (3+5) 9 8*

17 Ah,

*sfz diminuendo p ff 8 (3+5) sfz*



15

There are no rooms here Better go right on

*poco calando* *a tempo* *meno p*

(8va:)

- 8va -

21

No light shows This world is fin - ished, done

(v)

(8va:)

- 8va -

27

$\text{♩} = 180$

*mp più mosso ed agitando* *mfz* *len f e sempre cresc.*

(8va:)

- 8va - loco: *Ped.* *sfx* *Ped.* (h) *Ped.*

31

*8va sfz* *8va...* *sfz* *8va...* *tenuto*

*pesante sfz* *2 sfz* *4 sfz*

*Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.*

35 *a tempo* ( $\text{♩} = 90$ )

Let the dark come Let night strike Let no stone - Let no stone be

$\text{♩} = 90$

*a tempo*



39 *ritard.*  $\text{♩} = 75$   $\text{♩} = 90$  *a tempo*  
left un-turned — Let it be o-ver The lie too often told Truth

39 *ritard.*  $\text{♩} = 90$  *a tempo* *poco r.fz* *pp*  
it-self is eat-en a-way

44  $\text{♩} = 90$   
Let it be o-ver and done with for-e-ver

50 *expiringly (mf diminal pp)*  $\text{♩} = 180$  *ritard. ... molto*  
Let it be o-ver and done with for-e-ver

50 *expiringly* *mf diminal* *rit. pp - molto* *subito an. molto poco - a*  
Let it be o-ver and done with for-e-ver

54 *poco* *crescendo* *mf diminal*  
Hous-es for gris-ly whores Light to light fun-er-al

57 *cresc.* *sfz*  
Hous-es for gris-ly whores Light to light fun-er-al

9 (♩=90) rit. - - - - ♩=76 acce! - - - -

59

trains

59

*mp* *pp* *3p* *ritard.* *pp* *ritornare (accl.)*

62

Tempo I° (♩=90)

62

*al* *tempo I° (♩=90)*

8va - - - -

67

Let it be o-ver and writ-ten off,

67

*Trmmmm* *Trmmmm* *6* *8* *2* *4* *?*

(8va:) - - - - -8va

72

*ritard.* - - - - -♩=76 ♩=90 ♩=78

ever-y - bod-y's bad debt

72

[*ritard.* - - - - -♩=76 ♩=90 ♩=78

*4* *4* *3 a tempo* *2* *3* *4 pp* *4* *3* *4 più lento* *ppp*

(8va) - - - - -8va

5. The Cruel Kind Swans  
Majestic, but inward  $\text{♩} = 82$

10

O face with-in the sky Heart up-on the

*f* *sfz* *mp dimin.* *non ritard!*

fields Watching guarding raising all that runs swims flies

*pp* *delicate* *softly, but always growing*  $(\text{♩} = 41)$

Peaceful the deer at their graz-ing Be-side the

*f (melodia)* *sempre cresc.* *Ped.*

snow-y toss-ing of swans All things

*Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped. sempre* *accent(>) simile*  $(\text{♩} = 123)$

17 beau - full - y ner - ald - ing the birth - death of the

(Ped.) -

20 year

(Ped.) -

23 27 lunga non troppo lunga

27 lunga 27 non tr. lunga

secco e leggiero pp non tr. lunga

(Ped.) -

molto sotto il primo tempo (♩ = 56) (♩ = ♩ sempre)

30 The red - leaf gray - ing to death That is al - ways birth a - gain

♩ = 56

2 molto sotto il primo tempo 4 8 4 8 5 8

35 38 *f*

As the mold catches fire O always the flow-er-ing breath The

41 45 *rall. - - - - -*  $\text{♩} = 46$

swans coming on greenish wing For all that tires

*f* *sempre e con forza* *p dolce disin.* *rallentando* *pp*

6. The Constant Bridegrooms  
In anguished boredom ( $\text{♩} = 112$ )

$\text{♩} = 112$

Far down the pur-ple wood coats of a com-pan-y of si-lent

*p* *sempre*

6 6

sol-diers flap id-ly in the wind There they have stood since ear-ly-

day - Faces turned in-cur-ious-ly to the sound of the dry

rustling of leaves in the wind. No com-mand

has reached them there; All si-lent they have stood As

though they were a-sleep — Now night dark-ens their

*molto ritard.*  $\text{♩} = 76$

*molto rit.*  $\text{♩} = 76$

*tranquil, lulling* *Ped.* *l.h.*

*(con Ped.)*

*1/2 Ped.*

*Tacet*

*Piano*

30

Coats. — Far a - way Their

30

3 2

5 4

4 4

Ped. Ped.

8va.

rit. ----- ♩ = 60

34

names are spo - ken some - where at world's end

rit. ----- ♩ = 60

34

6 4

(ped) pp \*

morendo pp sung to spoken 3

PPP

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 Richard H. Clark